

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 31, line 10, with the following revised paragraph:

As shown in FIG. 21, since the control opening 167 of the third plate 163 is composed of the pair of near fan shaped openings and the octagonal opening, a cross sectional area of the guide passage 171 is gradually reduced radially inward and, then, gradually enlarged radially inward. The guide passage 171 has a pair of reducing area portions (outer openings) 172 each of which is formed in a fan shape and whose each cross sectional area is gradually smaller radially inward, a pair of enlarging area portions 173 each of which is connected to a radial inner end of the reducing area portion (outer opening) 172 and whose each cross sectional area is gradually larger radially inward and a uniform area portion 174 whose cross sectional area is constant radially. The pair of enlarging area portions 173 and the uniform area portion 174 together define a center opening. The injection bore 168 on a side of a fuel inlet thereof is opened to the uniform area portion 174. A distance between each center of the injection bores 168 and the step 170 in the enlarging area portion 173 is gradually longer radially inward, that is, toward the axial center of the injection bore plate 164.